

The Fabulous
Lighting Maven
Unexpectedly Illuminating

ACTION-ORIENTED PEARLS OF WISDOM FOR INDUSTRIAL MANAGERS AND CONTRACTORS
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Dear Reader:

It should be comforting to the Facilities Manager to know that there is oversight being provided the manufacturers on the efficacy of each fixture manufactured, particularly those that stand to qualify for various rebates, tax credits and other forms of subsidies. This is provided by a non-profit organization known as DesignLights Consortium, which assesses – and ultimately passes judgement on – every LED fixture, via a formal rating process.

In order for a fixture to pass muster, qualifying it for utility rebates, it must be judged to be energy efficient, and categorized by this entity, known generally as the DLC.

DESIGNLIGHTS CONSORTIUM

Started in 2009 by [Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships](#), “NEEP set a goal to accelerate market adoption of quality, efficient commercial sector LED lighting to reduce lighting energy use by 50 percent”. An immediate success, in 2016, NEEP spun off the [DesignLights Consortium](#) as an independent non-profit serving the U.S. and Canada.

Many of the DLC’s members are utility companies who have a vested interest in ensuring the projects they are subsidizing with their rebate money result in the installation of quality, energy efficient products. By and large, they’re all ‘on the hook’ to their state utility commissions for a minimum kW reduction per year for each of their conservation programs, and a coordinated effort to assess and ultimately pass judgement on each fixture accrues to their benefit, in addition to the ultimate buyer. We’re loath to use cliché terms here, but this really is a win-win situation.

Many of our readers are well-aware of our [industrial lighting contracting company](#), and those who are know that we have a particular expertise with networked controls. The DLC website dedicates an entire section to this portion of the lighting category, and you can find it here: [DLC - Networked Lighting Control](#).

In the past, when we’ve been involved in due diligence on what ultimately became selection processes around controls platforms, we’ve found this portion of DLC’s website to be invaluable. It’s one thing to listen to a manufacture extol the virtue of his/her product; it’s something very different for an independent 3rd party to not only do so, but to quantify and compare how it stacks up compared to its competition.

On the fixture front, the DesignLights Consortium requires lighting products to comply with minimum performance standards in three critical areas: distribution, color and longevity/stress. We think you’ll find it to be an important part of your toolbox.



U.S. Power is an industrial energy services company that specializes in the reduction of energy consumption across a broad array of manufacturing and food processing facilities located in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. In addition, the company publishes a useful curation of lighting-oriented information from the marketplace, and consolidates it into this concise, twice per month letter known as The Fabulous Lighting Maven, distributed to Facilities Managers throughout the nation.

While the company prides itself in its diversity, it owns and operates a niche lighting contracting firm as well, known as U.S. Power Vision, LLC. With a core business in and around industrial LED lighting, it keeps itself and its clients at the cutting edge of illuminating technologies, all aimed at providing – from the eyes to the fingertips – exceptional illumination, superb control and intuitive simplicity.

YOUR MORNING GRIN

It doesn't take much
to waste a bunch of electrons.
Does that surprise you?

Not us. We harvest waste for a living.

Ron Motsch
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*Building and Managing a Suite of
The Most Productive and Admired
LED Lighting Systems on Earth*

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